

Message Text

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ACTION OES-04

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0008

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E.O. 11652: N/A

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SUBJECT: REPORT OF US/EGYPTIAN JWC ON TECHNOLOGY, RESEARCH
AND DEVELOPMENT

1. SECONDMEETING OF THE JOINT US/EGYPTIAN WORKING GROUP ON
TECHNOLOGY, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (T.R. AND D.) WAS HELD
IN CAIRO NOVEMBER 3-4, 1974. MEETING WAS CHAIRED JOINTLY BY
DR. HASSAN M. ISMAIL, PRESIDENT OF CAIRO UNIVERSITY AND MR.
NELSON F. SIEVERING, JR.

2. AGREEMENT AND REFERENDUM WAS REACHED ON TEXT OF THE PRO-
POSED AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.
EACH SIDE WILL SUBMIT THE TEXT TO ITS GOVT WITH RECOMMENDA-
TION THAT IT BE SIGNED AT AN EARLY DATE. (TEXT TO BE TRANS-
MITTED SEPTEL). PENDING COMING INTO FORCE OF AN AGREEMENT FOR
COOPERATION BOTH SIDES AGREED THAT COOPERATION SHOULD PROCEED
IN ACCORDANCE WITH ALREADY ESTABLISHED MECHANISMS AND THE
AGREED ACTIONS OF THE JWG.

3. BOTH SIDES NOTED WITH SATISFACTION SUCCESSFUL COOPERATIVE
US/EGYPTIAN PROJECTS ALREADY UNDERWAY IN SEVERAL IMPORTANT
AREAS. AMONG THESE AREAS SPECIAL NOTE WAS TAKEN OF IMPORTANCE
OF REMOTE SENSING PROJECT, EFFORTS REGARDING ALTERNATE ENERGY
SOURCE, SUCH AS SOLAR ENERGY, AND MANY PROJECTS IN AGRICULTURE.

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4. BOTH SIDES AGREED THAT FOLLOWING AREAS FOR COOPERATION

WARRANTED EARLY EFFORTS TO DEFINE AN ACTION PROGRAM:

- I. REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF LABORATORY EQUIPMENT
- II. WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND TREATMENT, INCLUDING DESALINATION IN RELATION TO AGRICULTURE
- III. BUILDING MATERIALS AND BUILDING TECHNOLOGY
- IV. INFORMATION SYSTEMS MATTERS
- V. LAKE NASSER WATER PROBLEMS

EGYPTIAN DEL PRESENTED THEIR VIEWS ON THESE AREAS OF POSSIBLE COOPERATION EMPHASIZING THE PRIORITY IT ATTACHED TO PROPOSED WORK.

5. ADDITIONAL AREAS OF INTEREST WERE ALSO PRESENTED BY EGYPTIAN DEL: OF PARTICULAR NOTE WAS THE PROPOSED WORK IN SEVERAL INDUSTRIAL R & D AREAS. IN THIS RESPECT IT WAS EMPHASIZED BY BOTH SIDES THAT APPLIED RESEARCH OR RESEARCH IN INDUSTRIAL SECTOR WAS FULLY WITHIN SCOPE OF JWG AND SHOULD RECEIVE ITS ATTENTION. US DEL THEREFORE UNDERTOOK TO EXAMINE AND COMMENT ON THESE CURRENT EGYPTIAN PROPOSALS.

6. IN LOOKING TO PROSPECTS FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN EGYPT AND US, THE JWG RECOGNIZED IMPORTANCE OF ESTABLISHING PRIORITIES IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN CLOSE COORDINATION, AS APPROPRIATE, WITH OTHER US/EGYPTIAN JWG'S.

7. FIVE SUBGROUPS WERE ESTABLISHED TO CONSIDER IN DETAIL POSSIBLE ACTIONS IN THE PRIORITY AREAS IDENTIFIED ABOVE. FOLLOWING ACTIONS WERE AGREED TO BE JWG:

A. REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF LABORATORY EQUIPMENT

(1) TO HOLD WORKSHOP IN INSTRUMENT AND EQUIPMENT USE AND MAINTENANCE IN CAIRO IN JAN 1975, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION RECENT STUDY MADE BY NSF FOR EGYPTIAN NATIONAL RESEARCH CENTER.

(2) US SIDE AGREED TO INVITE ONE OR MORE EGYPTIAN SCIENTISTS OR ENGINEERS FOR A PERIOD OF TWO OR THREE WEEKS TO VISIT US INSTRUMENTATION CENTERS AND EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS FOR FAMILIARIZATION PURPOSES.

B. WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND TREATMENT INCLUDING DESALINATION IN RELATION TO AGRICULTURE.

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SALINATION IN RELATION TO AGRICULTURE.

(1) COOPERATION AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION THROUGH EXCHANGE OF VISITS.

(2) MUTUAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN DEVELOPMENT OF AN EXPERIMENTAL TEN-ACRE FARM IN EGYPT USING NILE RIVER AS WATER SOURCE. A PLAN WILL ALSO BE DEVELOPED FOR EXPANSION OF EXPERIMENTAL FARM AREA WITH A VIEW TO USE OF WATER OF VARYING QUALITY AS WELL AS NEW IRRIGATION TECHNIQUES. THIS PLAN WILL

INCLUDE DEFINITION OF REQUIREMENTS FOR AN ASSOCIATED RESEARCH PROGRAM, FACILITIES AND IRRIGATION SCHEME. A TEAM OF US WATER MANAGEMENT EXPERTS WILL VISIT EGYPT WITHIN ONE MONTH TO DEVELOP WITH EGYPTIAN EXPERTS SPECIFIC COOPERATIVE PROJECTS.

(3)

(A) DEVELOPMENT OF CONCEPTUAL DESIGN DATA FOR A SEA WATER DESALTING PLANT COMPLEX WHICH WILL MEET THE NEEDS OF AN EXPERIMENTAL FARM IN EGYPT. DESIGN INFORMATION TO BE EVOLVED WILL INCLUDE DEFINITION OF THE PLANT TYPE AND SIZE, STEAM AND ELECTRIC POWER SOURCE AND NECESSARY APPURTENANT WORKS. ADDITIONALLY, WATER COST DATA WILL BE DEVELOPED BASED ON CAPITAL, FUEL AND MAINTENANCE AND OPERATING COST ESTIMATES. TO ACCOMPLISH AFOREMENTIONED WORK, A JOINT TEAM OF US/EGYPTIAN TECHNICAL EXPERTS IN FIELD OF DESALTING WILL BE FORMED WHICH WILL MEET IN EGYPT WITHIN THREE MONTHS.

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(B) STUDY OF AN EXPERIMENTAL FARM PROJECT TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH DESALTING PLANT TO CONSIDER THE TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF WATER CONVEYANCE AND MANAGEMENT AS WELL AS INTEGRATED PROJECT ECONOMICS AND IMPACT OF WATER USE ON FARMING TECHNIQUES. AFOREMENTIONED WATER MANAGEMENT AND DESALTING EXPERTS WILL COORDINATE THEIR EFFORTS ON INTEGRATED PROJECT. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THERE WILL BE A JOINT MEETING OF EXPERTS OF BOTH GROUPS TO PRODUCE A FINAL REPORT. IT WAS AGREED THAT COMPLETION OF CONCEPTUAL DESIGN OR TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN ADVANCED IRRIGATION TECHNIQUES DOES NOT OBLIGATE EITHER COUNTRY FOR DETAILED DESIGN OR CONSTRUCTION OF DESALT-

ING PLANT COMPLEX.

C. BUILDING MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGY

(1) A JOINT STUDY GROUP WILL BE ESTABLISHED TO EVALUATE OVERALL PROPOSAL AND TO DEVELOP PLANS FOR IMPLEMENTING SUBSEQUENT PHASES. PLANS WOULD INCLUDE PROBLEMS OF (A) STRUCTURAL BUILDING MATERIALS, (B) PREFABRICATION, (C) BUILDING FINISHING MATERIALS, (D) BUILDING SYSTEMS, (E) DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS, (F) BUILDING CONSTRUCTION PROCESS, AND (G) STANDARDS AND QUALITY CONTROL.

(2) IDENTIFICATION BY US OF PROFESSIONALS IN BUILDING AND RELATED INDUSTRIES TO WORK WITH COUNTERPART PROFESSIONALS IDENTIFIED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF EGYPT TO SHARE AND TRANSFER TECHNOLOGY AND METHODS. THIS IDENTIFICATION TO BE COMPLETED BY JAN 1, 1975.

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(3) IDENTIFIED EGYPTIAN EXPERTS WILL BE INVITED TO WORK WITH THEIR US COUNTERPARTS IN RELATED FIELDS BY SPRING OF 1975.

(4) ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EGYPTIAN TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE BY JAN 1, 1975 TO PROVIDE A VEHICLE FOR BRINGING TOGETHER IN EGYPT PROFESSIONAL ORGS, RESEARCH COMMUNITY, GOVT OFFICIALS, UNIVERSITIES AND OTHER GROUPS INTERESTED IN BUILDING TECHNOLOGY TO SUPPORT THIS PROGRAM.

D. INFORMATION SYSTEMS

FORMATION OF A JOINT US/EGYPTIAN STUDY GROUP TO ASSESS NEEDS AND REQUIREMENTS OF AN EGYPTIAN INFORMATION, DOCUMENTATION AND LIBRARY SYSTEM FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE PROPOSALS RELATED TO NATIONAL INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION CENTER FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A CENTER FOR INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION AT CAIRO UNIVERSITY. FIRST MEETING OF THIS GROUP IS ANTICIPATED TO BE HELD IN CAIRO IN FEB OR MARCH 1975.

E. LAKE NASSER WATER PROBLEMS

EXPERT GROUP RECOMMENDED:

(1) CONTINUED HIGH PRIORITY RECOGNITION OF WATER QUALITY STUDIES ON RIVER NILE AND LAKE NASSER BY EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT AND U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.

(2) EXCHANGE OF VISITS OF RESEARCH TEAMS AND TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS IN AREAS OF IMPORTANCE TO STUDIES. SUCH EXCHANGES WOULD INCLUDE PLACEMENT OF EGYPTIAN SPECIALISTS, RESEARCH TRAINING AT AMERICAN RESEARCH CENTERS INCLUDING THOSE OF THE U. OF MICHIGAN AND EPA'S NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER.

(3) EXPLORATION OF POSSIBLE SOURCES TO SUPPLY EQUIPMENT NECESSARY FOR THE STUDIES.

(4) EVALUATION BY THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

OF THE PLAN OF OPERATION PREPARED BY THE EGYPTIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE U. OF MICHIGAN WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF APPROVING THE PLAN BEFORE NOV 15, 1974.

8. OTHER AGREEMENTS OR RECOMMENDATIONS:

WITHIN GENERAL SUBJECT OF COOPERATION IN TECHNOLOGY, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, IT WAS AGREED THAT US EXPERTS SHOULD HOLD UNCLASSIFIED

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SEMINARS ON R & D PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT. ALSO, A STRONG INTEREST WAS EXPRESSED BY EGYPTIAN SIDE IN CONCEPT AND EXPERIENCES OF US COMMUNITY COLLEGES IN VOCATIONAL TRAINING. ON THIS SUBJECT SEVERAL LECTURES WERE AGREED ON. THESE SEMINARS AND LECTURES SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN CAIRO PRIOR TO APRIL 1975. THESE UNDERSTANDINGS ARE TO BE COORDINATED WITH JWG ON COOPERATION IN CULTURE AND EDUCATION.

9. IT WAS FURTHER AGREED THAT EACH SIDE WOULD IDENTIFY COORDINATORS IN EACH AREA TO ACT AS POINT OF CONTACT AND TO INSURE IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE IS MET. US AGREED TO NAME ITS COORDINATORS BY NOV 21, 1974.

10. WITH RESPECT TO NEXT MEETING OF THE JWG ON T, R & D: IT WAS AGREED TO SCHEDULE A MEETING FOR APRIL/MAY 1975 IN WASHINGTON FOR PARTICULAR PURPOSE OF REVIEWING PROGRESS. THIS TO BE FOLLOWED BY ANOTHER MEETING IN NOV 1975 IN CAIRO. EXACT TIMING WOULD BE COORDINATED WITH MEETINGS OF OTHER JWG'S. IT WAS FURTHER AGREED THAT SUCCEEDING MEETINGS OF JWG ON T, R & D BE HELD ANNUALLY IN NOVEMBER, ALTERNATING BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND CAIRO.
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